

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

October 29, 2003

The Honorable George Bush President of the United States of America The White House Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the thousands of Ohio families who rely on our state's manufacturing sector, we are asking you to support an effort to help American-based companies keep jobs in this country.

It's no secret that jobs are hard to come by for many Ohioans. We have lost 220,700 jobs since January 2001, including 151,800 from manufacturing. These numbers underscore the need for us to work together to reverse this trend.

One immediate issue affecting workers and employers is the threat of trade sanctions imposed by the World Trade Organization as punishment for our tax code's foreign sales corporation and extraterritorial income (FSC/ETI) provisions. The threat of \$4 billion in tariffs imposed by the WTO on American companies must be resolved by the end of this year.

We would like to enlist your support in passing the Job Protection Act, which has bipartisan support from 148 House members, has been endorsed by both the National Association of Manufacturers and the AFL-CIO, and is very similar to legislation approved by the Senate Finance Committee. A competing bill has cleared the Ways and Means Committee, but your own trade officials have indicated that this bill may not protect American companies from the WTO tariffs.

The Job Protection Act is the best response to the manufacturing crisis with benefits targeted to manufacturers – especially small manufacturers – whose production is centered in the U.S. In contrast, the Ways and Means bill largely benefits retailers and other companies with huge investments in foreign countries. The Job Protection Act is a fiscally responsible budget-neutral solution to the WTO problem, while the Ways and Means bill adds a minimum of \$60 billion to the national debt even as we prepare to post the single largest annual federal budget deficit in American history.

We ask that you announce your support for the Job Protection Act during your visit to Ohio. Your intervention would advance support for American manufacturers and the employees at a time when they need it most. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress

TED STRICKLAND Member of Congress

TIM RYAN Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress